

PRESS RELEASE

September 1, 2006

RE: UNITED STATES v. JOSEPH TRIMPER, Jr.

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced today the sentencing of Joseph Trimper, Jr. Defendant Trimper, who was convicted of Social Security fraud on April 19, 2006, was sentenced on August 29, 2006, to 18 months imprisonment and to restitution of \$86,129 by United States District Court Judge William M. Skretny.

Assistant U.S. Attorney William J. Gillmeister, who handled the case, stated that the defendant had been convicted of Social Security fraud for knowingly diverting approximately \$86,129 of welfare benefits to himself and to accomplices by creating fictitious claims for emergency eviction assistance payments by the Erie County Department of Social Services while defendant Trimper was a Senior Welfare Examiner employed by the Department of Social Services.

The conviction was the culmination of an investigation initiated by the Special Investigations Division, Erie County Department of Social Services, under the direction of Senior Special Investigator Linda S. Smith, and conducted jointly with

the Office of Inspector General of the United States Social
Security Administration.